**DISTANCE SCOUTING PROGRAMME 22**

**(14 AUGUST 2020)**

**“THE N\*S\*A – OPERATION BOMBADIER”**

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| **You have until 19h00 on Friday 21 August 2020 to complete this programme. Follow the instructions carefully and you will be marked “present” for the programme, earn points for your patrol and hopefully compete some advancement and prepare for upcoming programmes and camps. More importantly, HAVE FUN!!!** |

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| **Equipment required for programme:**   * A cellphone with internet access and WhatsApp access to your patrol WhatsApp Group. * A blindfold and ten items that have distinctive smells (you must not know what these are!) * A metal sheet / old tin and poles / rope / string / pieces of wood. * A means of making fire. * An axe, bow saw or knife and a sharpening stone. * A phone or camera with the ability to take a video. * Your personal journal |

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| **The PL should, as always, designate who is doing what and, if nobody is doing an item (such as posting a training video) do this item so that the patrol can complete the programme.** |

Last week you arrived on Howland Island, the suspected headquarters that a N\*S\*A\* agent identified before he mysteriously disappeared.

You flew in by sea-plane, having a safe trip thanks to your knowledge of clouds and the dangers that they pose to aeroplanes.

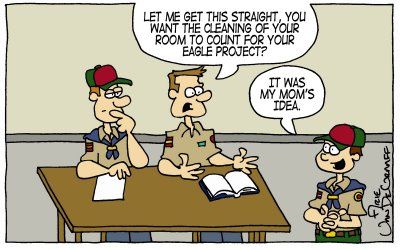
You of course knew that:

* Cloud 1 was a strato-cumulus – fluffy clouds located quite high up that generally don’t produce precipitation themselves, but which are often on the edge of bad weather, so can be an important warning for pilots. Mild turbulence can be expected with these clouds.
* Cloud 2 was a nimbostratus – low-lying clouds associated with steady rain or snow without hail or thunder. They are often associated with cold fronts. They can impair visibility for landing purposes and hence pose a limited danger to aeroplanes, especially those with limited instruments. Limited turbulence is associated with them.
* Cloud 3 was an alto stratus – a layer of clouds at a fairly high altitude often associated with warm fronts. As the front passes they may develop into nimbo stratus clouds and can hence be an important warning to pilots. Little to no turbulence is associated with them.
* Cloud 4 was a cumulus cloud – “fluffy” clouds that one often sees in the interior of South Africa during fine summer days. As they grow in size they can turn into the dangerous cumulonimbus clouds. When small, they are associated with mild turbulence, but as they get bigger so the turbulence grows.
* Cloud 5 was a cumulonimbus – the clouds associated with thunder storms and other extreme weather. Dark grey in colour they are much larger than cumulus clouds and often have an “anvil” on the top. In addition to being associated with thunder, lightning, tornados and hail there are massive up- and down-drafts in these clouds which can throw an aircraft around like a piece of paper. To be avoided at all costs!
* Cloud 6 was a cirrus – these are extremely high altitude clouds often described as looking like horses tails. They are made out of ice crystals and are associated cold, clear weather. Normally they are far above pilots but are not generally associated with icing or turbulence.

One of the biggest dangers posed by clouds is icing. If moisture condenses on the wing of an aeroplane and then freezes it can alter the aerodynamic qualities of the wing. This can cause drag, wasting fuel, and in extreme cases can cause the aeroplane to stall and tumble out of the sky!

On arrival you found a secret base, which you mapped. HQ is intrigued by base that you found on Howland Island. They are keen to remove the threat posed to the Covid Conference and have important instructions for you.

**INSPECTION:**

HQ is putting together a plan to destroy the base which they have code-named “Operation Bombadier”. In order to carry out the operation successfully you need to first of all prepare yourself and gather your resources. It is no use having a gun in the plane if you can’t find it!

Make sure that your plane (your bedroom) is properly prepared by making it neat and tidy. Take a photograph of your bedroom once you have tidied it and place it on your patrol WhatsApp Group.

This is a lot of work, so this item will count DOUBLE the normal points allocated for an inspection item. No cheating!



**GAME:**

The first portion of Operation Bombadier is gathering intelligence on what is planned for the Covid Conference. It is no use destroying the base if we don’t know what the enemy teams on the ground have planned!

You use your map to sneak into the base to see if you can find anything. You come across a storeroom with several unknown chemicals, some of which smell vaguely familiar. If you can identify the chemicals, you may have found an important clue on what is planned!

**This counts towards Item 3 of the Scoutcraft Observation Badge. You need 8 out of 10 items correctly identified in order to pass. Visit** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Observation_Scoutcraft_Badge> **for the full requirements of the badge.**

**Get your parents or an older sibling to help you with this**. Your helper will need to gather ten common household substances with a strong aroma. **DO NOT** help them gather the smelly items, you should have no idea what the ten items are. Foods, drinks and detergents all work well. When they are ready, come into the room blindfolded and smell the items one at a time. See how many you can identify (you need 8 out of the 10 in order to work out enough of the “chemicals” to work out what sort of device is being made!

Post your results on your patrol WhatsApp Group, together with a photo of you with the “smelly” substances.

**PREPARING THE SIGNAL FIRE:**

**This counts towards Item 3 (i to iv) of the Skills section of the Traveller Advancement Badge. Visit pages 224 to 226 of “My Scout Journey” to find out more about this item.**

The identity of the chemicals will be key to working out what sort of attack is being planned on the conference. Well done!

Part 2 of Operation Bombadier is to bomb the base into anihilation, helping to protect the world from the nefarious schemes of this lunatic terrorist group. The attack will have to be done at night to avoid detection, but this poses the problem of getting an aiming point for the bombers.

After much discussion it is decided that the best way to get an aiming point is for you to prepare a signal fire at the entrance to the base. You are going to have to secretly gather some wood for the signal fire, luckily there is a stretch of the island not used by the terrorists that has some dead trees in it. You can use either an axe or a bowsaw for this task. The illustration from “Boy’s Life” below may help you.



**Prepare a short video on your chosen tool, showing the following:**

* **The parts of your tool (blade, bit, haft, handle etc etc);**
* **How to sharpen your tool**
* **How to use your tool safely**
* **How to care for and store your tool**

**Post your video on your patrol WhatsApp Group. If you don’t have an axe or bowsaw, why not do a video on knife sharpening, use and safety?**

**TOWERING HIGH:**

Although a fire on the ground will help, what will really guide the bombers in is a fire high up where it cannot be obscured by trees and other obstacles.

**This can count towards items 1 and 2 of the Skills section of the Traveller Advancement Badge. Check what knots and lashing you need tested and plan them into your structure. For information on the various knots and lashings visit pages 218 to 223 of “My Scout Journey”**

 **Use any equipment that you may have at home to pioneer a “Lighthouse of Alexandria” type tower that will elevate your fire above ground to guide the bombers in. Take a photo of your tower with a fire burning on the top (it is suggested that you use something metal for this, like an old tin can) and post it on your WhatsApp Group. If you want to be tested on any knots or lashings, post close-up photos of your lashing on your group**.

**BLOGS:**

Post an update in either your personal log or on your patrol Blog on what you did this week as an update to base back in South Africa.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Applications for the National Senior Scout Adventure are now open. If you are going to be 15 or older please message your PL that you want to take part and register at <https://cederbergadventure.co.za/>. **DO NOT PAY A DEPOSIT YET!!!**
* New Star Patrol and Star Troop forms are now available. Please let your PL know when you can make a meeting of your patrol to do your initial assessment.
* A reminder that SCOUTS South Africa has made branded facemasks available at a cost of R40,00 per mask, excluding delivery. Visit the online scout shop at <https://shop.scouts.org.za/> to place your order.
* The Northrand Scout District is running a competition for all NORTHRAND Scouts. The Northrand Scout that earns the most interest and/or scoutcraft badges during the lockdown will win a prize worth roughly R150,00. Can you be the best in the district and scoop the prize?

SCOUTS South Africa has developed a Covid-19 awareness badge. Are you up to the challenge? Visit <https://www.scouts.org.za/2020/05/26/covid-19-awareness-badge/> for information on the requirements.

**TROOP DISMISSED!**